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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" It is a very insignificant amount when compared to the amount derived from the excise revenue which was to the tune of about Rs. 16 crores."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Question Nos. 1474 and 1475 may be taken up together."

Smallpox in Malabar.

* 1474 *Q.*—SRI K. T. SREEDHARAN (on behalf of Sri M. Narayana Kurup) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state the number of cases of attack and death due to smallpox in the Malabar district during the last three months?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The number of cases of attacks and deaths due to smallpox in the Malabar district during the three months ending with 31st January 1955 is as follows :—

Months.	Attacks.	Deaths.
November 1954	58	11
December 1954	197	64
January 1955	125	44 ,,

* 1475 *Q.*—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of deaths due to smallpox in Malabar during November, December 1954 and January 1955;

(*b*) the areas in which this disease is prevalent; and

(*c*) the steps taken by the Government to check the spread of this disease? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) The total number of deaths due to smallpox in Malabar during November 1954, December 1954 and January 1955 was as follows :—November 1954—11; December 1954—64; January 1955—44.

" (*b*) The areas in which this disease is prevalent are :—Kozhikode, Kurumbranad, Ernad, Palghat, Ponnani, Wynaad taluks and Tellicherry Municipality. (The disease was prevalent in Walluvanad and Chirakkal taluks in November and December 1954, respectively.)

" (*c*) Intensive vaccination and other preventive measures such as disinfection, isolation of cases and propaganda were carried out. Additional Health Assistants and Special Health Inspectors were posted for smallpox epidemic duty. Milk powder and multi-vitamin tablets and rice and medicines were distributed in some of the infected areas."

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SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" The other day the Hon. Minister said that he did not receive any report about the prevalance of smallpox in the Chirakkal taluk. I am getting reports that some deaths have taken place in the Chirakkal taluk especially in the Payyannur firka. Will the Government be pleased to tell the latest position regarding the prevalence of smallpox in that taluk in particular and in Malabar in general. Also will the Government take steps to prevent and control it and whether they have given any relief to the victims of the disease? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I have already answered this question which is being repeated again and again on the floor of this House. Vaccination and re-vaccination work is regularly being done. The necessary additional staff has been employed for the purpose and a few bags of rice have been distributed among the affected people. I understand that the epidemic has been brought under control. There are only sporadic cases of infection in a few villages."

SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI :—" Sir, in spite of all the measures taken by the Government, this disease is still spreading and even day before yesterday it was reported that the disease has been in a virulent form in South Malabar and particularly in Perintalmanna. Have the Government received any information regarding it? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" We have no information about the widespread nature of the disease at present in Malabar."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" This is just the season when the disease gets virulent and spreads. Therefore, will the Government take particular care and instruct the officers concerned to be on the alert? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir."

SRI C. H. KANARAN :—" In many parts of the Kottayam taluk and in places near Tellicherry, attacks of smallpox have been reported in the newspapers. Will the Government take immediate steps in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Wherever the epidemic appears in such a virulent form or it spreads widely, necessary steps are being taken and will be taken promptly in future also."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Obviously the epidemic has spread because universal vaccination has not been possible for want of staff. Therefore, will the Government augment the existing reserve health staff and then rush them to the place of occurrence and the adjoining places so that the whole area could be combed out and vaccinated? "

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir, that is what is being done now. Wherever the epidemic appears, an intensive campaign of vaccination and re-vaccination is being launched and additional staff necessary for this purpose is being employed."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, it seems that the Government are not getting latest reports from the officers concerned. Otherwise, the Hon. Minister would have referred to the latest position. As the disease is in a virulent form and deaths are taking place, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to get reports from the officers concerned so that he can know the exact position? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I shall call for information in respect of this matter. But it seems that the hon. Member is trying to exaggerate matters out of proportion just to discredit the work of the Health Department."

Armed Police at Neiveli project area.

* 1476 *Q*.—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any Special Armed Police were stationed in January 1955 at Neiveli Project area; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) A small party of the South Arcot District Armed Reserve was stationed at Neiveli from the 8th January 1955.

" (*b*) It was found necessary to station the police party for the maintenance of law and order and for the prevention of breach of peace."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Was there any occurrence of breach of peace or law and order in this area? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, Sir."

Water-supply and drainage schemes in the First Five-Year Plan.

* 1477 *Q*.—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount sanctioned by the Planning Commission for this State for national water-supply and drainage schemes in the First Five-Year Plan;

(*b*) the share of the urban areas out of this amount; and

(*c*) whether the Union Government advanced any loan towards half the cost of water-supply and drainage schemes undertaken by any municipality, the other half being met by the concerned municipality and the State Government? "